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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/533,319	04/29/2005	Marcio P Laureano	922-178	5296
23117	7590	09/05/2006	EXAMINER	
NIXON & VANDERHYE, PC 901 NORTH GLEBE ROAD, 11TH FLOOR ARLINGTON, VA 22203			BUCHANAN, CHRISTOPHER R	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			3671	

DATE MAILED: 09/05/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/533,319	Applicant(s) LAUREANO, MARCIO P	
	Examiner Christopher R. Buchanan	Art Unit 3671	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 29 April 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 10-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 10-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 29 April 2005 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Priority

1. Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 10-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hopper (US 6,200,152 B1) alone.

Regarding claim 10, Hopper discloses a reciprocable connector assembly (abstract, see Fig. 6) for coupling a service line through a path in a wellhead and hanger wall, the assembly including a connector (C, see attached Fig. 6) for coupling with a corresponding connector (41) in the hanger wall (5), a shuttle (20) that carries the connector between coupled and uncoupled positions, a connecting cable (37) connected at one end to the connector and wound in a plurality of turns to extend or retract with respect to one another between the coupled and uncoupled positions (col. 5 line 1+), and a support (S) constraining movement of the turns.

The assembly of Hopper differs from the claimed invention in that the service line (15) is not connected directly to the connector (C), but is connected to a connecting cable (37), which is then connected to the connector (claim 10). However, this means of connecting the service line to the connector is just one of many possible connecting means that would provide the same result, including eliminating the cable connector (36) and running the service line (15) directly to the connector (C). Furthermore, the connecting cable can be seen as merely an extension of the service line (col. 2 line 1+).

Regarding claim 11, the service line is a power line (col. 1 line 19+). Regarding claim 12, the cores of the line are wound in separate turns. Regarding claim 13, the line could be an optical fiber line. Regarding claims 14 and 15, the support is internal to the turns of the line and constrains movement to axial movement (see Fig. 6).

4. Claim 16 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hopper (US 6,200,152 B1) alone.

Hopper discloses an assembly (see Fig. 6) for providing a service line connection through a wellhead member and tubing hangar, the assembly including a wellhead member (3) having a first passageway through a wall thereof, a hangar (5) body having a second passageway therethrough, a coupling element (41) disposed within the second passageway, a reciprocable shuttle (20) carrying a connector (C), the shuttle being disposed for translation between a retracted position in which the connector and coupling element are not connected and an extended position in which the connector and coupling element are coupled (col. 5 line 1+), and a connector cable (37) being

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fixedly connected to the connector and looped in a plurality of supported turns that expand as the shuttle moves to the extended position.

The assembly of Hopper differs from the claimed invention in that the service line (15) is not connected directly to the connector (C), but is connected to a connecting cable (37), which is then connected to the connector. However, this means of connecting the service line to the connector is just one of many possible connecting means that would provide the same result, including eliminating the cable connector (36) and running the service line (15) directly to the connector (C). Furthermore, the connecting cable can be seen as merely an extension of the service line (col. 2 line 1+).

5. Claims 17-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hopper (US 6,200,152 B1) alone.

Regarding claim 17, Hopper discloses a reciprocable connector assembly (abstract, see Fig. 6) for coupling a service line through a path in a wellhead and hanger wall, the assembly including a first connector (C, see attached Fig. 6) for coupling with a corresponding second connector (41) in the hanger wall (5), a reciprocable member (20) that carries the connector between coupled and uncoupled positions, a connecting cable (37) connected at one end to the connector and wound in a plurality of turns to extend or retract with respect to one another between the coupled and uncoupled positions (col. 5 line 1+), and a support (S) constraining movement of the turns.

The assembly of Hopper differs from the claimed invention in that the service line (15) is not connected directly to the connector (C), but is connected to a connecting

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cable (37), which is then connected to the connector (claim 17). However, this means of connecting the service line to the connector is just one of many possible connecting means that would provide the same result, including eliminating the cable connector (36) and running the service line (15) directly to the connector (C). Furthermore, the connecting cable can be seen as merely an extension of the service line (col. 2 line 1+).

Regarding claims 18-20, the support is a static spool member and constrains movement to axial movement (see Fig. 6).

Conclusion

6. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure and are cited on PTO Form 892 enclosed herewith.

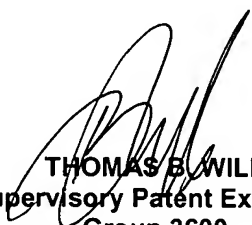
7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Christopher R. Buchanan whose telephone number is 571-272-8134. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon.-Fri. 9:00am - 5:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Tom Will can be reached on 571-272-6998. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

CB



THOMAS B. WILL
Supervisory Patent Examiner
Group 3600